

Food and Nutrition Commission Meeting Minutes
Monday, Oct. 5, 2015, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Ramsey County Plato Office Building
90 W. Plato Blvd., Saint Paul, 55107

Members present: Diane Dodge, Metric Giles, Nadja Berneche, and Rebecca Mino,

Others present: Paula Merrigan, Ann Luke, Leah Driscoll, Paris Dunning, Jaya (Ginter) Davis, Evalyn Carbrey, and Julie Seiber

Nadja Berneche welcomed the attendees who introduced themselves. Evalyn Carbrey was introduced as a new Public Health SHIP staff member who will be working with the Commission.

Announcements and upcoming events included:

- Food Access Summit, Nov. 8-10, Duluth Entertainment Convention Center—includes meeting of food councils and networks. Nadja, Rebecca, Diane, Tracy, Jaya, Evalyn, and Julie plan to attend.
- Metric announced that Saint Paul Almanac is collecting stories from African American Elders.
- Diane Dodge attended the Growing Food and Justice Conference in Chicago. She would like to do a dismantling racism in the food system workshop with the Food and Nutrition Commission.
- Jaya Ginter announced that a Food Day Proclamation will be read at the County Board meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 20 at 9:00 am. Either Nadja or Tracy will speak. The City Council will also read the Proclamation on Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 3:30 pm. Both meetings are at the Court House. Everyone is encouraged to come. Jaya will send the announcement postcard of the Food Day events to be held Oct. 17 -24 in the Twin Cities. Theme: [Food Day in the Twin Cities: Local Bounty](#)

Paula Merrigan, Chair of the Saint Paul Comprehensive Planning Committee discussed the Comprehensive Planning process for Saint Paul. The ten-year plan will be the city's blueprint with responses to emerging trends and the changing built environment (land use, streets, and buildings). The overarching theme will be sustainability with a focus on energy costs, global economy, the widening income gap, the aging population and increasing diversity. At the initial meeting the issues of food access, food production and food justice came up as emerging issues. The meaning of these issues needs to be clarified. Soil health/urban soil may also be topics of interest. The plan is due to the Met Council in late 2017. City staff have been assigned to work each chapter that will be in the plan. Public meetings, focus groups, stakeholder meetings, and interviews will be held to obtain input. Chapters already identified are land use, transportation, housing and historic preservation. Parks and Recreation will draft a separate plan.

Staff may find it easiest to hear from unified groups with statements that come in with one or two voices and are accompanied by a written document. Residents may talk with their City Council member regarding specific issues unique to their ward. The comp plan itself doesn't solve problems but can set up the situation so that solutions are possible.

The Food and Nutrition Commission could find an end game goal around food access and work back to identify the needs and possible solutions and influence the plan.

"Food Justice," a video produced by SHIP, the Ramsey Healthier Food Coalition and **tpt** will be introduced at the Food Access Summit and aired on **tpt** beginning Nov. 15, 7:00 pm. The Food and Nutrition Commission will have access to DVD's of the program and could use them for community events or as a tool with the organizations in which members are involved. The video will be shown at the next meeting.

Diane Dodge spoke with Anne Hunt about input for drafting the city's pollinator ordinance. Diane and Pat Trotter will meet to discuss the Commission's input. Members were asked to review the Minneapolis ordinance and send comments to Diane. Anne Hunt would like for people to think about situations specific to Saint Paul.

Nadja with the help of Hua and Boa are compiling a summary table of responses to the food issue questionnaire. Nadja will send the completed document to members to use and post on their websites as appropriate. In the future this document could be used as a starting point for conversations with City Council members.

Nadja and Ramsey County Public Health staff will meet on Wed., Oct. 14, 2:30 – 4:00 to discuss work plans for the next three months. Nadja invited any other FNC members to attend the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30.

2015 MTG. DATES	MEETING DETAILS: 90 W. Plato Blvd., Saint Paul, 551075:30 – 7:30 pm
November 2, 2015	
December 7, 2015	
January 4, 2016	May be cancelled or time used for task forces